

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 211880
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SIG-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 TRSE-00 DHA-05 /089 R

DRAFTED BY EA/VLC:TMCARNEY/FMLC
APPROVED BY EA/VLC:TMCARNEY
EA/P:WMAGRUDER
EA/TIMBS:DSULLIVAN
EA/PRCM:MVBRIESEN
-----090856 032159Z /75

R 030245Z SEP 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MANILA
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
CINCPAC
SECDEF

UNCLAS STATE 211880

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPRS, PFOR, US, VM

SUBJECT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF US MIA MISSION TO HANOI

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DEPT. SPOKESMAN'S SEPT. 2 ANNOUNCE-
MENT OF THE SEPTEMBER 30 U.S. MISSION TO HANOI TO REPATRI-
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ATE MIA REMAINS.

2. BEGIN TEXT: ON SEPTEMBER 30,1977, A DELEGATION FROM THE
STATE AND DEFENSE DEPARTMENTS WILL TRAVEL TO HANOI,
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, BY USAF AIRCRAFT TO REPATRI-
ATE THE REMAINS OF 22 AMERICANS WHICH VIETNAMESE AUTHORI-
TIES PROMISED US DURING BILATERAL TALKS IN PARIS IN JUNE.

THE MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THIS STEP IS PART OF OUR EFFORTS TO ARRIVE AT THE FULLEST POSSIBLE ACCOUNTING OF AMERICANS MISSING IN INDO-CHINA. THOSE EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE AS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF DEVELOPING U.S.-SRV RELATIONS."

QUESTION: ...THE ACCOUNTING, WILL THEY MOVE MORE DIRECTLY INTO THE MATTER OF RELATIONS? CERTAINLY THE STATE PEOPLE DO NOT NEED TO CHECK THE BODIES?

ANSWER: WE DO NOT INTEND TO HAVE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS THERE. THEIR MISSION IS LIMITED TO PICKING UP MIA REMAINS

AND ACCORDINGLY THE MISSION WILL PROBABLY BE ON THE GROUND A MATTER OF HOURS INSTEAD OF DAYS.

QUESTION: WHY, ALTHOUGH MAYBE ITS SYMBOLIC IS THE STATE DEPT., PART OF THAT MISSION?

ANSWER: WE'VE BEEN AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS WHOLE OPERATION FROM THE BEGINNING. THERE IS AS YOU KNOW A SEPARATE OFFICE IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS ASSISTANT SECRETARY'S OFFICE AND THIS IS A CONTINUATION OF THAT PROCESS.

QUESTION: HODDING, THE FIGURE OF 22 IS THAT THE NUMBER WE HAVE KNOWN SINCE JUNE?
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ANSWER: THESE ARE THE 22 THAT WERE PROMISED US IN JUNE, YES.

QUESTION: THAT WAS THE FIGURE MADE PUBLIC AT THE TIME?

ANSWER: I DON'T REMEMBER.

QUESTION: AND THIS WAS THE TOTAL PROMISED BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE TO THIS ADMINISTRATION?

ANSWER: THAT'S AS OF RIGHT NOW.

QUESTION: HAVE THE NAMES OF THE 22 BEEN RELEASED YET?

ANSWER: NO, THE NAMES CAN'T BE RELEASED AT THIS TIME. THEY CAN'T BE ANNOUNCED NOW, WE'VE BOTH AGREED THE VIETNAMESE AND WE, PENDING CONFIRMATION OF THEIR IDENTIFICATION BY OUR FACILITIES IN HAWAII WHERE THEY'LL BE TAKEN. THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HAS TOLD THE FAMILIES OF THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN TENTATIVELY IDENTIFIED, BUT UNTIL WE DO BETTER THAN THAT WE DON'T WANT TO RELEASE THE NAMES.

QUESTION: WHY DOES IT TAKE SO LONG, SINCE JUNE, TO GET THE BODIES?

ANSWER: I DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT...

QUESTION: HODDING, ITS BEEN JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, THREE MONTHS BY MY COUNT SINCE THE LAST TIME THERE WAS ANY SUBSTANTIVE MEETING IN PARIS ON NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS AND THIS WOULD SUGGEST THERE'S SOME SORT OF DEADLOCK. IS THAT FAIR? WHY HAS THERE BEEN NO SUBSTANTIVE MEETING?

ANSWER: I'M NOT PREPARED TO GO INTO REASONS. WE DID AGREE THAT WE MEET AGAIN AT A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE TIME.
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WE CONTINUE TO BE IN TOUCH WITH THE SRV THROUGH OUR PARIS EMBASSY, THEIRS AND OURS, AND WE OF COURSE REMAIN INTERESTED IN IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM AND CONTINUE TO HOPE THAT PROGRESS CAN BE MADE IN THAT DIRECTION, BUT YOUR SPECIFIC QUESTION, WHICH I AM SIMPLY NOT ABLE TO ADDRESS, IS WHY NO MOVE IN THE LAST THREE MONTHS, I DON'T HAVE A REASON FOR THAT.

QUESTION: YOU DON'T EVEN WANT TO POINT TO AN AREA BECAUSE, ON THE BODIES, ISN'T IT TRUE THAT WE, THE GOVERNMENT, SEEM TO BE SATISFIED PRETTY MUCH WITH WHAT VIETNAM HAS PRODUCED. IS IT ANOTHER ISSUE WHICH IS HOLDING IT UP? OR IS IT TOO SLOW...HAS HANOI BEEN TOO SLOW IN THIS AREA?

ANSWER: I THINK THOSE ARE GOOD QUESTIONS WHICH I CAN'T ANSWER. INsofar AS THE PROCESS OF MIA'S IS CONCERNED, WE HAVE A CHANNEL FOR DISCUSSION WITH THEM WHICH WE HAVE KEPT OPEN AND CONTINUE TO TALK WITH THEM, FROM HERE TO THEIR EMBASSY AND BACK TO VIETNAM.

QUESTION: WELL IS THAT AREA GOING WELL?

ANSWER: WE'RE TRYING TO CONTINUE THE PROCESS. WE DON'T THINK ITS OVER AND WE'RE TRYING TO GO FORWARD WITH IT. WE CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE TO THE VIETNAMESE THE IMPORTANCE THAT WE LAY ON THIS QUESTION AND IT WAS ONE OF THE CENTRAL FOCUSES OF OUR CONVERSATION IN JUNE. BARRY I'D LIKE TO BE ABLE TO GO MORE. I SIMPLY DON'T KNOW WHAT THE REASONS ARE.
CHRISTOPHER

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ORIGIN DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-02 ISO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY D/HA:FSIEVERTS:JY

APPROVED BY EA/VLC:FZBROWN

-----067330 122335Z /65

O 122320Z SEP 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 211880

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 211880 ACTION PARIS

INFO BANGKOK HONG KONG MANILA PEKING KUALA LUMPUR

SINGAPORE JAKARTA CINCPAC SECDEF 03 SEP 77

QUOTE

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CHRISTOPHER.
UNQUOTE VANCE".

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MIA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770320-1026
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From: STATE
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Image Path:
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 4f3ffb4d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
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Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1389757
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANNOUNCEMENT OF US MIA MISSION TO HANOI
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, US, VM
To: PARIS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4f3ffb4d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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22 May 2009
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